REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 5, 11, 17 and 18 have been amended. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the pending claims in light of the amendments and the following remarks.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC §103

The Office Action rejected claims 1-4 and 18-22 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith in view of Feldbaum et al. (Patent No. 6,446,246).

Claim 1, as amended, is not unpatentable over Smith in view of Feldbaum because neither Smith nor Feldbaum teach or suggest the claimed elements of: "an agent acting as a spoke in a hub and spoke integration system, the agent for receiving high level business data from a source application; an encryption engine for encrypting the high level business data to produce encrypted business data; a queue manager for receiving the encrypted high level business data and for storing the high level business data for delivery to a target server; and an output for transmitting the encrypted high level business data to the server acting as a hub in another hub and spoke integration system; and running the target application, wherein the system and the target server are separated by the at least one firewall." The enterprise of Smith is not a hub and spoke integration system, and it does not rely on an agent acting as the spoke for receiving the business data in order to encrypt it. The support for the claim amendments can be found in the disclosure, page 5, paragraph [0019] to page 6, paragraph [0022].

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Claims 2-4 are dependent on claim 1 and are therefore patentable for at least the same reasons that claim 1 is patentable.

Independent claim 18, as amended, contains claim limitations substantially similar to those of claim 1. Therefore, claim 18 is not unpatentable over Smith in view of Feldbaum for the same reasons as claim 1.

Claims 19-22 are dependent on claim 18 and are therefore not unpatentable over Smith in view of Feldbaum for at least the same reasons that claim 18 and claim 1 are not unpatentable.

The Office Action rejected claims 5-17 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Feldbaum and further in view of Smith.

Independent claim 5, as amended, contains the following claim limitations: "receiving *at an agent acting as a spoke in a hub and spoke integration system,* data from a source application program; encoding the data according to a message queuing protocol to provide an MQ message; encrypting the MQ message to provide an encrypted MQ message; and transmitting the encrypted MQ message *to a server acting as a hub in another hub and spoke integration system*; and running a destination application program for processing of the data." Neither Feldbaum nor Smith teach or suggest the use of an agent acting as a spoke in a hub and spoke integration system; and the use of a server acting as a hub in a different hub and spoke integration system. Therefore, claim 5 is not unpatentable over Feldbaum in view of Smith.
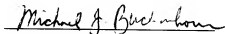
Claims 6-10 are dependent on claim 5 and are patentable for at least the same reasons that claim 5 is patentable.

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Independent claim 11 is a computer program product counterpart to claim 5 and contains claim limitations substantially similar to those of claim 5. Therefore, claim 11 is patentable over the art cited by the Examiner.

Claims 12-17 are either directly or indirectly dependent on claim 11; therefore they are allowable for at least the same reasons that claim 11 is allowable.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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